WHEEL END CONDITION DETECTION SYSTEM

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention provides a vehicle axle assembly including a wheel end supported on an axle by bearings. ABS detects lateral movement of the wheel end relative to the axle using a sensor and tone ring. A fault code is generated during excessive lateral movement of the wheel end relative to the axle. The wheel end condition detection system activates a warning device in the vehicle cab communicating the severity of the condition to the vehicle operator. Additionally, the detection system may also communicate with a vehicle control system to limit the vehicle speed by regulating the engine to ensure that the vehicle is not operated at an unsafe speed until the wheel end condition is corrected.

N:\Clients\MERITOR\IP01790\PATENT\application.doc